

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 315
By Fowler

A RESOLUTION to designate "A Tennessee Bicentennial Rap:
1796-1996" by Joan Hill Hanks, as the Official
Tennessee Bicentennial Rap.

WHEREAS, from time to time, this Assembly deems it appropriate to adopt certain songs as official state songs; and

WHEREAS, on June 1, 1996, Tennessee proudly celebrates its 200th anniversary as a state of this great union; as we celebrate our bicentennial, it is important that we remember the panoramic history of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, in preparation for this joyous celebration and in remembrance of our creation, the General Assembly has found it fitting to adopt an official bicentennial song and an official bicentennial portrait; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Joan Hill Hanks of Signal Mountain, Tennessee has composed a bicentennial rap, a composition that provides a fun and easy way for citizens and students to learn and retain some of our great state's history; and

WHEREAS, titled "A Tennessee Bicentennial Rap: 1796-1996", this lighthearted and fun, yet educational rap, reads as follows:

TENNE-, TENNE-, TENNES-SEE!
Oh, how proud we are of thee!
Volunteer State since 1812 -
Glad our fathers picked here to dwell!

Presidents, Presidents - proud are we!

Jackson, Polk, and Johnson - three!
Crockett, Forrest, and John Sevier;
Alvin York and Hull lived here !

Baker, Gores, and Kefauver,
Served our country with honor!
U.T., Memphis and Vandy U.,
Tennessee Tech and Sewanee, too!

Appalachian Mountains, mountains high -
Reaching up in the smoky sky!
Tennessee River, flowing through -
We will cross near the Choo Choo!

Dollywood and Walking Horse Show!
Opryland and the Opry Show!
Whisky, whisky - sipping smooth -
Moon, Moon Pies and Goo Goo Goos!

Reelfoot Lake and cotton fields,
Natchez Trace and Civil War fields!
Mocking birds and raccoons grow,
And tulip poplars and iris show!

Bessie Smith and Memphis blues -
W.C. Handy and Elvis, too!
Eastman, Oak Ridge, and TVA -
Nissan, Saturn, and Country Music pay!

Chickasaw, Sequoyah, and Cherokee -
Cumberland Plateau and Mississippi!
BIRTHDAY WISHES ON 200 YEARS -
GIVE TENNESSEE A BIG, BIG CHEER!; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that upon this our 200th anniversary, the Tennessee General Assembly take time to reflect on the proud heritage of our great state during this celebratory year, and it is, therefore, proper that this Assembly adopt such a fun, educational and reflective rap as the one written by Joan Hill Hanks; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we hereby designate "A Tennessee Bicentennial Rap: 1796-1996" by Joan Hill Hanks as the Official Bicentennial Rap, as we remember in this bicentennial year, the great history and traditions of our state.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

A RESOLUTION to designate "A Tennessee Bicentennial Rap:
1796-1996" by Joan Hill Hanks, as the Official
Tennessee Bicentennial Rap.

A RESOLUTION to designate "A Tennessee Bicentennial Rap:
1796-1996" by Joan Hill Hanks, as the Official
Tennessee Bicentennial Rap.

A RESOLUTION to designate "A Tennessee Bicentennial Rap:
1796-1996" by Joan Hill Hanks, as the Official
Tennessee Bicentennial Rap.

A RESOLUTION to designate "A Tennessee Bicentennial Rap:
1796-1996" by Joan Hill Hanks, as the Official
Tennessee Bicentennial Rap.

A RESOLUTION to designate "A Tennessee Bicentennial Rap:
1796-1996" by Joan Hill Hanks, as the Official
Tennessee Bicentennial Rap.